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Opterus Launches Helen Rose Scholarship Awards to Spotlight the Accomplishments of Young Canadian Women Pursuing Academic and Entrepreneur Paths

Toronto – Aug. 08, 2019 – [Opterus](#) Inc., the leading global provider of cost-effective, web-based store communications and task management solutions, today announced the winners of the newly launched Helen Rose Scholarship Awards, founded to highlight accomplished young women between the ages of 18-25 and residents of Canada, who are pursuing a STEAM educational or entrepreneurial path. The awards are inspired by and dedicated to the memory of Dr. Helen McKilligin, the mother of Janet Hawkins, founder of Opterus. Each scholarship winner was awarded \$10K CND.

This year's scholarship winners are:

Winner of Academic Award: Montana Sharpe-Blum – Vancouver, British Columbia

Montana is a recent graduate from McGill University, where she completed her Bachelor in Cognitive Science with a minor in Social Studies of Medicine. She is excited to be entering medical school this fall at the University of British Columbia. Growing up as a foster-sister in Vancouver sparked Montana's interest in health and gender equity, and she is eager to deepen her understanding of how women's health issues can be intensified by structural inequalities and oppression.

Winner of Entrepreneurial Award: Angelica Alberto – Peace River, Alberta

Angelica received her Bachelor of Science, minoring in Business at The King's University as well as earning her certification in Clinical Esthetics at the Esthetics Plus. Angelica is a motivated young entrepreneur who is driven by her goals. At an early age of twenty-one years old, she began to pursue her passion as a creative entrepreneur in the medical esthetics industry, opening up The Beauty Bar & Co. Angelica and her team work tirelessly to meet the needs for those in her community.

Dr. McKilligin led a remarkable and groundbreaking life. She graduated from the University of Aberdeen in 1958 with a specialty in pediatrics. She was a published author, writing a book with pioneering insights into the principles of neonatal nursing in 1970. She practiced in Newfoundland at the Grace Hospital and taught as an associate professor at the medical school at Memorial University in Newfoundland. She helped form the first Family Planning Association of Newfoundland that opened a birth control centre in St. John's, which was the first of its kind in the province. In 1980, she moved her family to Ontario and worked for the ministry of health creating groundbreaking programs in reproductive health. Before retiring she also completed her fine arts degree at the OCAD University.

About Opterus Inc.

Opterus Inc. is a leading global provider of a cost-effective, easy-to-implement store information and execution management solution that increases productivity and improves retail enterprise communications. For additional information about Opterus, please visit <http://www.opterus.com>.

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